

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9526

UNCLAS PANAMA 0263

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ

SUBJECT: CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: PANAMA 256

FBIS/PANAMA JANUARY 15 CARRIED FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE,
RELEASED BY NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE
(CONEP):

BEGIN QUOTE. WHEREAS:

ONE 1--THROUGH ITS HIGHEST OFFICIALS THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT HAS CONSTATANTLY PROMISED TO KEEP THE PEOPLE
INFORMED ON THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BEING CARRIED
OUT WITH THE UNITED STATES.

TWO 2--THE U.S. AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE UNILATERAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS WHICH CAN SERIOUSLY COMPROISE THE
SOVEREIGN POSITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.

THREE 3--THE PEOPLE HAVE LEARNED THROUGH STATEMENTS
BY U.S. NEGOTIATOR ELLSWORTH BUNKER THAT THE TALKS WITH
THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN INFORMAL AND SO
FAR THE PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW THE CONTENT OF THESE INFORMAL
TALKS.

FOUR 4--DESPITE THE INFORMAL NATURE OF THE TALKS,
THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT APPROVAL OF
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AN EIGHT 8-POINT AGREEMTN BETWEEN PANAMA AND THE UNITED

STATES WAS IMMINENT.

FIVE 5--THE PEOPLE OF PANAMA HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THE CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT.

SIX 6--VARIOUS SECTORS WHICH FORMULATE THE NATION'S PUBLIC OPINION ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS THIS SERIOUS MATTER IF THEY ARE NOT PROPERLY INFORMED.

SEVEN--7 A CLIMATE OF FREEDOM IS NECESSARY FOR A PROPER DISCUSSION OF SUCH IMPORTANT MATTER, RESOLVES:

ONE 1--TO REQUEST A FULL, PERMANENT, AND UP TO DATE REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT ON THE COURSE AND STATE OF THE TALKS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

TWO 2--TO DEMAND THE FULLEST GUARANTEES TO FREELY DISCUSS, ENCOURAGE, AND ANALYZE THE TALKS, AGREEMENTS, AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAMA CARRIES WITH THE UNITED STATES. END QUOTE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, INFORMATION CONTROL, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PANAMA00263
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740141/aaaabmfr.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PANAMA 256
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 OCT 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ, US, CONEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005